

December 13, 1961

Dear General Clay:

Mr. Rusk has informed me of his talk with you in Paris and of your loyal decision to stay on, in the face of your own doubts and uncertainties. I want you to know that I regard this as first-class soldiering. I know that there have been tactical differences between you and Washington, but our basic purpose is one, and in the grim tests which I think still lie ahead we count on your on-the-spot alertness and your prompt and candid counsel. Your efforts are a real help to the cause, and I am delighted at your decision.

Sincerely,

JFK

General Lucius D. Clay
U. S. Mission Berlin
Berlin, Germany